GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1952
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2003
EXPANSION OF OIL PALM CULTIVATION
SURESH KODIKUNNIL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has plan for expansion of oil palm cultivation all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Kerala forfinancial assistance to promote oil palm cultivation in the state;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. To promote cultivation of oil palm in India, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP) is being implemented in the Stateshaving potential for oil palm cultivation. Currently, the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Goa Gujarat, Tripura and Assam are covered under OPDP.The objective of the scheme is to promote cultivation of oil palm with a view to augmenting the domestic supply of edible oils so as to bridge the gap between demand and supply. Under the scheme, assistance is provided towards the cost of planting material, cultivation inputs, installation of drip irrigation system, diesel pump sets, training, development of waste-land, extension and publicity, establishment & staff, frontline demonstrations, leaf-nutrients analysis laboratories and testing of genotypes under various environmental conditions.

(c): No, Sir.

(d) & (e): Question does not arise.